MALVERN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

1971

M A L V E R N U R B A N D I S T R I C T

A N N U A L R E P O R T

by

H. F. GREEN, M.A., M.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health

and

JAMES B. FRANKS, M.A.P.H.I.

Chief Public Health Inspector

FOR THE YEAR 1971.

COMMITTEES CONCERNED WITH PUBLIC HEALTH

HIGHWAYS AND HEALTH COMMITTEE

MR. G.H.V. BLYTHE

MRS. B.E. BOMPHREY

MR. T.J. BURCHELL

MR. R. CRAFT (CHAIRMAN)

MR. A.E. HOLMES

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HOUSING COMMITTEE

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MR. H.W.T. SQUIBB (CHAIRMAN)

MRS. D.A. TAYLOR, J.P.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health	H.F. GREEN, M.A., M.B., D.P.H.
Chief Public Health Inspector	J.B. FRANKS, M.A.P.H.I.
Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector	G.J. AINSCOUGH, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
Assistant Public Health Inspector	M. MILLEN, M.A.P.H.I.
Chief Clerk	E.C. BARBER.
Typist/Clerk	C.F. GODSALL.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

THE COUNCIL HOUSE

MALVERN

Telephone: Malvern 61531

The Council House,
Malvern.

March, 1972.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my last Annual Report.

There has only been one episode of food poisoning worthy of comment this year in a Resident Institute in which thirty seven persons were affected. The causative organism was identified as Cl. Welchii. The circumstances surrounding the preparation of the food at two meals were those that we have so frequently found on previous occasions.

A large quantity of meat was roasted and stacked as joints on one plate and allowed to cool in a warm atmosphere overnight. On the following day the meat was sliced and served at the mid-day meal. On the other occasion chicken were boiled and allowed to stand in their own stock and cooled slowly overnight. The organism, which is very heat resistant, must have been introduced early in the cooling stage from dust in the atmosphere.

In each of the above cases, a large amount of protein was allowed to cool very slowly and was subject to a somewhat dusty atmosphere due to structural and other defects in the kitchen and larder. It cannot be emphasised sufficiently that these outbreaks, which are always dramatic, will continue to occur so long as large joints of meat and other large quantities of protein are left to cool slowly before being reheated or served cold. The standards of kitchen hygiene and the code of cooking must always be maintained.

Over the past twenty years, I have, through my contacts with the Community, watched considerable, though undramatic, changes taking place in the way of life and health of the Community.

In the first place, when I came here, cases of Diphtheria had only recently occurred and there were still patients in the old Isolation Hospital. No cases of Diphtheria have occurred during my tenure of office. Epidemics of Poliomyelitis, some of which were very severe, came and went. The disappearance of the disease is almost certainly the result of Vaccinations.

In the early fifties, there was a serious outbreak of glandular Tuberculosis due to the infection of unpasteurised milk. There was also an outbreak of streptococcal infection causing a number of cases of Nephritis and Rheumatic Fever which was responsible for the death of three people in the next ten years. Tuberculosis vaccination and the discovery of anti-tuberculous drugs has changed the picture in that Tuberculosis seems to be disappearing and is now very rare indeed amongst children and young adults who were formerly the chief sufferers. There is, however, still a small core of old people suffering from Tuberculosis who can become a danger to their grand-children and until these people have disappeared I am of the opinion that B.C.G. Vaccination against Tuberculosis must continue.

Continued./

must continue.....

In stating that I have the honour to present the Report, I would like to say that I feel privileged to have served the Council over the last twenty three years, and must thank them for their invariable support and the great deal of information that they have provided us with, so making our own work easier. It has also been a privilege to be a member of the staff of the Public Health Department where the first person "singular" hardly seems to exist and the successes and difficulties of our work have been shared by all.

Relatively infrequent changes in staff indicates the cohesion between us all and I have in particular to thank Mr. Whitwham, Mr. Franks and Mr. Ainscough for this.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

H.F. GREEN.

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STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS IN THE AREA .

Area of land and inland water	7,400 acres
Registrar General's estimate of resident population	30,380
Number of dwelling houses	9,689
Total number of assessments	11,500
Rateable value at 31.3.72	£1,159,533
Sum represented by a penny rate at 31.3.72.	£11,000

EXTRACT FROM THE VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

Live Birth Rate (per 1,000 estimated resident population)	16.9
Still Birth Rate (per 1,000 live and still births)	9.0
Still Birth Rate (per 1,000 estimate resident population)	0.13
Death Rate (per 1,000 estimate resident population)	9.3
Infantile Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	16.0

COMPARABLE DATA FOR ENGLAND AND WALES 1971

Live Births (per 1,000 total population)	16.0
Still Birth Rate (per 1,000 live and still births)	12.0
Death Rate (per 1,000 home population)	11.6
Infantile Mortality (per 1,000 live births)	18.0

D E A T H S

Causes of Deaths - All Ages.	Male	Female	Total
Enteritis and other Diarrhoeal Diseases	-	1	1
Cancer - all forms	26	29	55
Cancer of Lung and Bronchus	9	1	10
Leukaemia	1	-	1
Diabetes Mellitus	1	3	4
Other Endocrine etc. Diseases	1	-	1
Anaemia	1	-	1
Other Diseases of Nervous System	3	2	5
Disease of Heart and Blood Vessels	43	39	82
Other forms of heart disease	6	21	27
Cerebrovascular Disease	17	29	46
Other Disease of Circularatory System	9	12	21
Pneumonia	6	15	21
Bronchitis and Emphysema	6	5	11
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	4	-	4
Cirrhosis of Liver	2	1	3
Other disease of Digestive System	5	2	7
Hyperplasia of Prostate	2	-	2
Other Diseases - Genito Urinary System	1	3	4
Diseases of Musulo - Skeletal System	1	2	3
Congenital Anomolies	1	2	3
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour etc.	3	-	3
Symptoms and ill-defined conditions	2	3	5
Motor Vehicle Accidents	3	-	3
All other Accidents	4	4	8
Suicide and other self-infliced injuries	1	-	1

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA

Water Supplies

There are two main sources of Malvern Water. First a deep borehole at Bromsberrow which has been sunk in new red sandstone. It provides an abundant and good water supply showing an average total hardness of 22. It is not contaminated in any way. The second is water collected from the hills around the British Camp, the reservoir lying in a hollow in these hills. This supply is more in the nature of a standby than a main supply, and the analysis is typical of hill water that it contains few "Solids in Solution" and having a low total hardness.

The monthly bacteriological examination of water taken from taps at various points in the town mains supply was uniformly satisfactory showing the absence of faecal coli on each occasion.

MALVERN WATER.

Physical Character.	4th January, 1971.
Colour	None
Odour	None
Deposit	None
pH	7.40

Chemical Examination (Results expressed in parts per million)

Solids in Solution (Dried at 180° C).	320
Solids in Solution After Ignition	170
Chlorine Present as Chloride	20
Hardness Non-carbonate as Ca CO 3	44
" Carbonate	182
" Total	226
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	0.01
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.01
Nitrate Nitrogen	8.2
Nitrite Nitrogen	Nil
Permanganate Value (4 hours at 27°C)	0.05
Toxic Metals	None detected
Free Carbon Dioxide	11
Residual Chlorine Total	Nil
Calcium as Ca	68
pH Saturated with calcium carbonate at 20°C	7.53
Saturation Index	7.40 - 7.53 = 0.13

Water Supply from Wells.

Only a few houses are supplied with water obtained from shallow wells. Samples are submitted from time to time to the Laboratory for analysis.

Public Cleansing.

This work is carried out under the direction of the Engineer and Surveyor. The disposal of household refuse is undertaken at the Guarlford Sewerage Works by means of tipping. Street sweeping in central area daily, elsewhere once weekly. Cesspool emptying by mechanical means as required.

Swimming Baths and Pools.

(a)	Public Pool.	-	Public Pool owned by Local Authority.
(b)	Privately owned Pools open to the Public	-	None.
(c)	Action taken to ensure the satisfactory condition of water.	-	Frequent visits and bacteriological and chemical analysis.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Laboratory Services

Chemical analysis is carried out by arrangement with the County Laboratory at Worcester. Bacteriological examinations are carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, Worcester Royal Infirmary.

Clinics.

There are none provided by this Authority.

The following clinics are provided by the Worcestershire County Council:-

Infant Welfare Centres.

The Clinic, Victoria Park Road.	Wednesdays	2.00 - 4.00 p.m.
Sydenham Villa, Newtown Road.	Tuesdays	2.00 - 4.00 p.m.
Methodist Church School Room, Lansdowne Crescent.	1st Friday in the month	2.00 - 4.00 p.m.
Wyche Institute, Lower Wyche	1st Tuesday in the month	2.00 - 4.00 p.m.
St. Mary's Church Hall, Sherrards Green.	Fridays	2.00 - 4.00 p.m.
Parish Hall, West Malvern.	1st Monday in the Month	2.00 - 4.00 p.m.
Wood Farm Camp, Malvern Wells.	4th Monday in the month	2.00 - 4.00 p.m.

School Clinic

The Clinic, Victoria Park Road.	Fridays (by appointment only)	9.30 - 12.00 noon

Chiropody.

The Clinic, Victoria Park Road.	Monday, Tuesday,	ALL DAY.
	Wednesday,	MORNING.
	Friday.	ALL DAY.

Applications from Old Age Pensioners, Expectant Mothers, and Handicapped people should be made to the County Medical Officer, Worcester.

Dental

The Grove School, Pickersleigh Grove	by appointment	Applications made to Principal Dental Officer, Worcester.

Occulist

The Clinic, Victoria Park Road.	by appointment	Applications made to County Medical Officer, Worcester.

Hearing.

The Clinic, Victoria Park Road.	by appointment	Applications made to County Medical Officer, Worcester.

Family Planning

The Clinic, Victoria Park Road.	Thursdays	6.30 - 8.00 p.m.

Relaxation

The Clinic, Victoria Park Road.	1st, 3rd, 5th Thursdays in the month (by appointment)	2.00 - 4.30 p.m.

Speech Therapy

TheClinic, Victoria Park Road.	Mondays	9.30 - 12.00 noon 1.30 - 4.00 p.m.
	Fridays (Cases referred by School Health Service).	9.30 - 12.00 noon

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The following table shows the number of infectious diseases notified during 1971:-

Disease	All Ages	0-	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-9	10-14	15-24	25+	N.K.
Measles	76	8	13	7	8	7	21	11	1	-	-
Dysentery	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-
Scarlet Fever	13	1	-	1	-	1	6	3	-	1	-
Food Poisoning	37	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	37
Whooping Cough	16	-	4	6	-	-	2	1	-	1	2
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1

PROPHYLAXIS

Diphtheria Immunisation	Ages 0 - 4 years	Ages 5 - 16 years	Total
Children who received a full course of primary immunisation	281	31	312
Children who received a reinforcing injection	10	254	264
Whooping Cough Immunisation			
Children who completed a primary course of immunisation	270	9	279
Tetanus Immunisation			
Children who completed a primary course of immunisation	281	63	344
Children who received a reinforcing injection	13	439	452
Polio Immunisation			
Children who completed a primary course of immunisation	269	34	303
Children who received a reinforcing injection	13	399	412

Smallpox Vaccination

Under 1 year	1 - 2 years	2 - 4 years	5 - 16 years	Total
Primary				
2	132	30	14	178
Revaccination				
-	-	-	19	19

Rubella Vaccination

Number vaccinated (girls ages 11 - 13 years)

G.P. - 21 Clinic - 252 Total - 273

Measles Vaccination

Year of Birth	1971	1970	1969	1968	1967-1964	1963-1955
	-	116	83	25	54	11

TOTAL - 289

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948 SECTION 47.

No persons were removed to hospital under the 1951 amending Act of the National Assistance Act.

The Council House,
Malvern.

March, 1972.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

During the past year every endeavour has been made to improve the standard of hygiene in food premises throughout the distrct. Regular inspections of these premises have been carried out and the co-operation of Owners and Occupiers of these establishments was sought and received. Improvements were made, many of which included structural alterations, and in certain cases, at a considerable expense.

It can now be assumed that in general a satisfactory standard of hygiene exists in these premises and as a whole they comply with the requirements of the regulations. This, ofcourse, is only the first chapter in the story. It is of little value when premises comply with the Food Hygiene enactments if the staff are unaware of the vital link which connects them with the preparation and service of food and the public who purchase it. Without this essential co-operation, managerial efforts would be of no avail. It was with this problem in mind that an approach was made to the Lecturers of Hygiene and Domestic Science at the College of Further Education in the Autumn of 1970, with the proposal to institute a short course in Food Hygiene in conjunction with the Health Department. This course created considerable interest and was well supported, and was the lever to encourage us to start a second and more ambitious course over a period of two terms leading up to the examination for the Diploma of the Royal Society of Health for Food Retailing and Catering. This course also aroused the interest of personnel engaged in the handling of food and was well attended.

It would be incorrect to state that an ideal result has been achieved, though it can be said that progress has been made in this particular field of our activities.

It is pleasing to note that the long awaited Sewerage Scheme serving the outlying districts - Leigh Sinton, Interfield and Shernacre areas, has been completed. Residents in these areas have been quick to take advantage of this amenity. Schemes of improvement to their homes have been submitted, including connection to the sewer.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J.B. FRANKS.

SUMMARY OF VISITS AND INSPECTIONS.

Inspection of Shops	127
" " Factories	169
" " Offices, Shops and Railway Premises	279
" " Bakehouses	4
" " Restaurant Kitchens	191
" " Outworkers Premises	1
" " Butchers Shops, P.H. Meat Regs.	176
" " Dairies	70
" " Food Shops	541
" " Fish Friers	20
" " Places of Public Entertainment	10
" " Schools	21
" " Licensed Premises	19
" " Public Conveniences	27
Special Visits, Advisory Interviews, etc.	3,241
Visits re: Infectious Disease	17
Rat Infestations	312
Atmospheric Pollution	14
Noise Abatement	93
Miscellaneous	291
Housing including Inspections of Dwelling Houses	1,208
Petroleum Storage Installation	196
	7,027

COMPLAINTS

The Register shows that 746 complaints were received during the year under review, these having reference to the following matters:-

Blocked and Defective Drainage	47
Defective Closet Accommodation	11
Defective Conditions in Dwelling Houses	51
Offensive Odours from Drains	6
Non-collection of House Refuse	18

Verminous Premises	29
Wasps' Nests	140
Infestations of Rats and Mice	251
Food and Drugs Act	43
Clean Air Act	25
Noise Abatement Act	55
Miscellaneous	70

RENT ACT 1957

No action taken during 1971.

LAND CHARGES ACT 1925

Requests for information concerning properties on which a Search for Local Land Charges is made to the Clerk of the Council are dealt with by this department where applicable; 974 enquiries were investigated during the year.

HOUSING ACT 1969

Improvement Grants.

64 Discretionary Grants were made in respect of individual houses and 9 Discretionary Grants for conversion of other properties, providing 28 dwellings, were approved in 1971, an increase of 438 per cent on the previous year; Standard Grant approvals diminished from 58 to 22. In terms of hard cash, grants approved totalled £54,830 overall - an increase of £32,436 or 244 per cent on 1970.

The following table shows comparative figures over the past nine years:-

	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971
Discretionary grants approved.	20	15	12	13	24	8	8	19	73
Standard Grants approved	41	26	23	30	39	34	41	58	22
	61	41	35	43	63	42	49	77	95

Qualification Certificates

Section 44 (1) (where a dwelling already satisfies the conditions)

13 applications for Qualification Certificates were received during the year; 3 Certificates were granted, 1 refused and 9 are pending.

Section 44 (2) (where a dwelling does not have all the standard amenities.

3 applications for Qualification Certificates were received in 1971 and 2 were granted, 1 remains pending.

HOUSING ACT 1957

One dwelling was demolished in pursuance of Demolition Order :-

19 Yates Hay Road.

Demolition Orders were made in respect of the following properties:-

21 Pump Street.

19 Yates Hay Road.

49,51, and 53 Newtown Road.

A closing order was made in respect of No. 110 West Malvern Road.

OVERCROWDING IN DWELLING HOUSES

Four new cases of overcrowding were reported or discovered. This increased the number of cases on our records to ten.

The cases mainly refer to overcrowding of rooms normally used for sleeping purposes in excess of the"permitted" number.

During the year seven cases were abated, thus leaving three on record. Six families were rehoused by the Council and one obtained their own accommodation. The cases are placed in the following categories:-

(a)	Increase where one family are sole occupants	2 cases
(b)	Increase where family is in lodgings	1 case
(c)	Married son or daughter making home with the in-laws	4 cases

INFECTIOUS DISEASE, DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION

In accordance with usual practice, and where necessary, investigations relating to infectious disease are made, on notification to the Medical Officer of Health.

Twenty four rooms were fumigated. Infestations of cockroaches, bed bugs, ants, flies and fleas were dealt with at various premises.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT 1963

Application for renewal of a licence in respect of premises, already used in a small way for boarding of cats and dogs, was received.

An inspection was made and a licence was subsequently issued.

SCRAP METAL DEALERS ACT 1964

This Act came into operation on the 1st July, 1965, and provides among other requirements that no person may carry on the business of a scrap metal dealer unless he is registered by the Council.

Six persons are now registered.

FACTORIES ACT 1961

The provision of the Factories Act 1961, which your Council has to administer, chiefly relate to the following matters:-

1. Factories where mechanical power is used.

   (a) Provision and maintenance of sanitary conveniences for both sexes.

2. Factories where mechanical power is not used

   (a) Cleanliness.

   (b) Overcrowding.

   (c) Ventilation

   (d) Drainage.

   (e) Provision and maintenance of sanitary conveniences for both sexes.

   (f) Temperature control.

3. Sanitary Regulations for Bakehouses.

4. Homework.

The following table shows the list of factories on the Register:-

Agricultural Engineers	2
Automatic Packing and Weighing Machine Manufacturers	1
Bakehouses	4
Bread Slicing and Wrapping	1
Blacksmiths	2
Bicycle Repairs	1
Boot Repairs	3
Breeze Block Manufacturers	1
Clothing Manufacturers	1
Concrete Slabs	2
Construction Engineers.	1
Coppersmiths and Engineers	1
Dairy Engineers	1
Dental Laboratory	1
Diesel Engine Repairs	1
Dressmaking, Millinery et cetera	4
Electrical Instrument Manufacturers	1
Electrical Switchgear Assembly	1

Fabricated Steel Products	1
Fireplace Manufacturers	1
Flexible Plastic Ventilating Tubes.	1
Fruit Canners	1
General Engineering	8
Glass Syringes	1
Glove Making	1
Hemp Drying and Processing	1
Joinery	17
Laundry	1
Light Engineers	1
Machinery Repairs	1
Machine Tool Manufacturers	1
Marine Dealer	1
Metal Turning	1
Motor Cycle Cables	1
Motor Cycle Repairs	1
Motor Manufacturers	1
Motor vehicle body repairs and spraying	3
Motor Repairs	29
Organ Building	1
Photographic	2
Piano Repairs	1
Plant Repairs	2
Plastic Mouldings et cetera	3
Polishes and Dressings	1
Pottery	1
Precision Engineers	2
Printers	3
Road Tanker Manufacturers	1
Roofing Contractors	1
Sausage Making	10

Saw Mills	1
Sheet Metal Work	1
Spectacle Manufacturers	1
Stone Masons	2
Tailoring	2
Transformers	1
Tinsmiths	2
Tools and Dyes	1
Toy Distributors	1
Tyre Repairs	1
Upholsterers	6
Water Works	1
Watch Repairs	3
Wireless, Television and Electrical Repairs	10

The number of inspections made of factories are as follows, the table being in accordance with the requirements of the Home Office.

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories in which Section 1,2,3,4&6 are to be enforced By Local Authority.	41	73	-	-
Factories not included above which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	119	96	-	-
Other premises which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	160	169	-	-

Cases in which defects were found:-

	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecut-ions were instig-ated.
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1.)	2	2	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2.)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3.)	1	1	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4.)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective Drain-age of floors (S.6.	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7).					
(a) Insufficient	5	5	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork).	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	8	8	-	-	-

OUTWORK - Part V111 of the Act Sections 110 and 111.

Section 110		Section 111		
Number of Outworkers in August list reqd. by Section 110 (1) (C).	No. of cases of default in sending list to Council	No. of prosecut-ions for failure to supply lists	Notices Served	Prose-cutions
Wearing apparel Making et cetera 1	-	-	-	-
Cleaning and Washing -	-	-	-	-
TOTAL 1	-	-	-	-

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963.

At the 31st December, 1971 the number of registered premises was 261, as under:-

Offices	77
Retail Shops	162
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	5
Catering Establishments open to the Public	14
Fuel Storage Depots	3

Section 60 of this Act requires that annual reports are made to the Minister in a specified form. A statistical report on the procedure was duly sent to the appropriate office early in the year.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

The number of retail dairymen or milk purveyors is now seventeen. Distribution of milk is kept under observation. Vehicles used for this purpose are frequently inspected.

Forty five visits were made to dairy premises for the purpose of inspection or to collect samples of milk on arrival from the place of production.

The Milk (Special Designation) Regulations 1963.

Samples of milk are taken to the Public Health Laboratory, Worcester for statutory and phosphatase examination, details are as follows:-

Statutory examinations were carried out on twenty six samples of milk and all conformed to the required standard. Eight were void because of weather conditions.

Thirty four samples of pasteurised milk subjected to the phosphatase test with satisfactory results.

ICE CREAM

Ninety two premises are now registered for the sale of ice cream. Most of the ice cream is sold prepacked. Inspections are made as to the means of storage and the methods of dispensing this commodity.

FOOD HYGIENE

The following table required by the Department of Health and Social Security, sets out the various types of businesses embraced in the general term food premises, which call for supervision to maintain the standards required by the provisions of the Food Hygiene Regulations:-

List of Food Premises	No.	*Compliance with Reg.16	**Compliance with Reg.19
Bakers and Confectioners	11	11	7
Canteens	12	12	12
Dairies	1	1	1
General Stores	12	12	4
Grocers	45	45	33
Hotels	21	21	22
Licensed Premises	51	51	51
Butchers	21	21	21
Confectioners and Sweets	20	20	-
Fishmongers	6	6	6
Fish Friers	3	3	3
Green Grocers	13	13	10
Restaurants and Refreshment Rooms.	19	19	16
TOTAL	235	235	186

* Compliance with Reg. 16 - Wash Hand Basin.

** Compliance with Reg. 19 - Facilities for washing food and equipment.

The number of premises which are required to comply with Regulation 19 is one hundred and eighty-six.

UNSOUND FOOD

The following is a list of unsound meat and other foods examined by our Inspectors at Food premises and subsequently destroyed. Disposal of unsound food by incineration being no longer possible it has become necessary to bury all condemned foodstuffs. Every precaution is taken and the work is undertaken by our Disinfection Operator:-

1 pig carcase (82 lbs); 150 lbs beef; 40 lbs minced beef;
2 ducklings; 2 frozen turkeys (40 lbs); 28 dozen Danish eggs;
4 lbs 6 oz. cheese; 204 lbs 8 ozs. canned fruits;
275 lbs 2 ozs canned meats.

Refrigeration breakdowns: 246 packets and 10 cwts 72 lbs assorted foods.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT 1951.

This Act prescribes certain standards of cleanliness in the manufacture, use and storage of rag flock and other filling materials, and provides for the registration of upholsterers and certain other businesses such as toymakers and licensing of manufacturers of rag flock et cetera.

Two premises are registered under the provision of this Act.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

It was not necessary to institute legal proceedings in 1971.

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT 1960.

The Wilson Committee's final report on the problem of noise, as long ago as 1963 judged that the public will gradually become less tolerant of noise as the standard of living rises. This forecast (unlike many others) originated from Whitehall has very effectively come true, and most Local Authorities now recognise the Public Health Inspector's involvement with complaints of this nature.

Refrigeration and ventilation units in the larger stores require a cooling and constant supply of air if they are to work efficiently, and architects usually house these units within louvred walls. Complaints concerning five of these constructions were received during the year and the work of sound and vibration insulation has now been completed on all of the units.

It is perhaps worth mentioning that one of the biggest problems associated with noise complaints is not the initial measurement and assessment of the noise but the knowledge and ability to suggest the correct methods to effectively reduce the vibration or noise. It is this difficult side of noise control which will improve only with experience.

Similarly, it is only experience that will teach us to recognise a potential source of noise at the planning stage. It is important, therefore, the Architect, the Planner and Health Inspector co-operate at the earliest possible stage to prevent new noise problems developing.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT 1949.

The routine rodent control surveys have been carried out throughout the district. Particular attention has been given to the sewers and refuse tips where surveys and treatments are regularly maintained. The water courses and ditches in the rural part of the town are also frequently inspected and all minor infestations are speedily followed up.

I am pleased to record that our Operative has continued to be conscientious and efficient in the control of pests in the district.

CONCLUSION

It is my pleasure to express thanks to The Clerk of the Council, The Treasurer and the Surveyor for the invaluable help and co-operation in matters relating to the Department.

My thanks are also due to the Staff for their loyalty and conscientious support and to the Chairman, Members of the Highways and Health and Housing Committees for their continuous interest and consideration during the year 1971.

Finally I have to thank Dr. Green for his co-operation and personal interest he has taken in all our undertakings during the past year.

The staff of the Department join me in wishing Dr. Green a long and happy retirement. If Malvern Urban District Council has been fortunate in its Medical Officer of Health, the Department has been doubly so. As the titular head of Department, he delegated all matters relating to environmental health to his staff, never interfered, but always available and helpful when decisions and situation demanded it.

It was always to his credit that he preferred to be a 'member of the staff' and was very obviously one of the prime causes of the excellent team spirit that has existed in this Department for many years.

It is an understatement to say we regret his departure.

J.B. FRANKS.
Chief Public Health Inspector.